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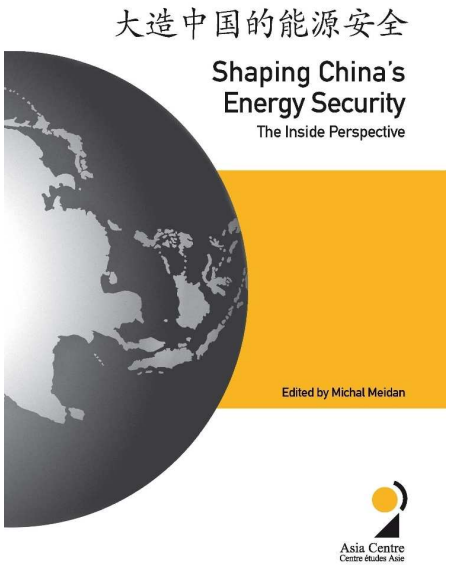

The rise of an energy-hungry China is influencing economies, decision-makers, and industrial policies worldwide. Within China, important debates are taking place on the institutions governing energy, on pricing reforms and the issue of market liberalization. Abroad, questions are raised about the implications of China's fast-growing energy demand, its quest for resources and its policies addressing environmental degradation. Understanding the actors that shape China's energy sector and their diverse perceptions is now essential. It is needed by those who interact with the Chinese administration, companies and market, or who seek to influence China's global energy footprint.

This book provides the first comprehensive view of the factors that constitute China's energy security. It sheds light on the importance of diverging domestic interests, lobbies and interest groups as well as bureaucratic interactions in China's energy policy-making. It also assesses the country's international energy strategy through this prism. The dynamics of China's energy choices are essentially domestic. But their impact - rational or psychological - is now global.

This volume is the outcome of a research project conducted by Asia Centre - Centre études Asie in Beijing between September 2006 and December 2007. Five workshops and roundtables brought together leading Chinese and Western experts from the fields of energy economics, law, political science as well as industrial and foreign policy actors.

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